

Message Text

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22

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-01

INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-15 TRSE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06 SP-02

CIEP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 L-03

NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SS-15 /098 W
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R 070915Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5077

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

USINT BAGHDAD

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

UNCLAS KUWAIT 1679

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, ETJIN, KU

SUBJ: CABINET APPROVES FY 76/77 BUDGET

REF: A) CERP 0200; B) 75 KUWAIT A-73

1. KUWAIT COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HAS APPROVED FY 76/77
BUDGET TALLING KD 1,035 MILLION (KD 1 EQUALS \$3.50).
GOK HAS FORWARDED ITS BUDGET TO NATIONAL ASSEMBLY WHICH
WILL ACT ON IT, PROBABLY IN JULY JUST BEFORE LEGISLATURE
BREAKS FOR SUMMER RECESS. BUDGET COVERS PERIOD FROM
APRIL 1, 1976 TO MARCH 31, 1977. GOK AGENCIES PRESENTLY
OPERATING UNDER EQUIVALENT OF CONTINUING RESOLUTION.
BUDGET APPROVED BY CABINET DOES NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT
POSSIBLE 15-MONTH FY 76/77 WHICH MAY RESULT IF NATIONAL
ASSEMBLY DECIDES TO EXTEND FISCAL YEAR TO JULY 1.

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2. ALTHOUGH FEW DETAILS ARE GIVEN, FY 76/77 BUDGET WILL INCLUDE KD 300 MILLION FOR SALARIES, KD 88 MILLION FOR UNNAMED PUBLIC EXPENSES, KD 339 MILLION FOR VARIOUS GOVERNMENT PROJECTS, AND KD 308 MILLION FOR UNCLASSIFIED EXPENDITURES.

3. COMMENT: OFFICIAL GOK BUDGET IS NOTABLE FOR WHAT IS LEFT OUT. IT DOES NOT INCLUDE, FOR EXAMPLE, MAJOR GOK INVESTMENT, AID, HOUSING OR MILITARY EXPENDITURES WHICH ARE EITHER CLASSIFIED OR WHICH ARE SUBJECT TO SPECIAL AUTHORIZATIONS FROM THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ALLOWING WITHDRAWALS FROM THE STATE'S FINANCIAL RESERVES. BUDGET IS MADE ON BASIS OF PREVIOUS YEAR'S INCOME AND NOT ON PROJECTED INCOME FOR SAME FISCAL YEAR. IN FY 7/76 GOK INCOME, ACCORDING TO CENTRAL BANK STATISTICS, WAS KD 2 BILLION, OR ABOUT TWICE AMOUNT BEING BUDGETED FOR FY 76/77. THEREFORE, IN STRICTLY BUDGETARY TERMS, GOK SUPPLUS IS ALMOST KD 1 BILLION, BUT HIS FUGURE MEANINGLESS UNTIL MAGNITUDE OF HOUSING, AID, MILITARY AND OTHER EXPENSES NOT INCLUDED IN BUDGET ARE KNOWN. BUDGET ITSELF APPEARS IN LINE WITH EXPENDITURES OF RECENT YEARS. AGAIN, HOWEVER, IT CONSIDERABLY UNDERSTATES ACTUAL COMMITMENTS AND EXPENDITURES SINCE IT DOES NOT INCLUDE CERTAIN MAJOR ITEMS.

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